

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-9 and 11-14 are all the claims pending in the application. The Examiner has indicated that claims 2, 3/2, 4, 5 and 10-13 contain allowable subject matter.

Prior Art Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 1 and 3/1 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Miyazawa (JP 2001-134074).

Applicant has rewritten allowable claim 2 into independent form and canceled claim 1 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of claim 1 is now moot. Further, the Applicant has amended claim 3 to solely be dependent upon allowable claim 2. Thus, Applicant submits that claim 3 is allowable at least by virtue of its dependency on claim 2.

The Examiner has rejected claims 6, 9/6 and 14/6 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Nukui (JP 10-142886).

Applicant has rewritten allowable claim 10 into independent form based on claim 6, and has canceled claims 6, 9 and 14 without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of such claims is now moot.

The Examiner rejected claim 7 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nukui (JP 10-142886) in view of Okazawa (US 5,471,292).

Applicant has canceled claim 7, without prejudice or disclaimer, and therefore submits that the rejection of such claim is now moot.

The Examiner has rejected claims 8, 9/8 and 14/8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nukui in view of Hattori et al. (US 5,585,911).

Applicant has canceled claims 8, 9 and 14, without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the rejection of such claims is now moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 2, 3/2, 4, 5, and 10-13 are objected to only as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicant herein rewrites claims 2 and 10 into independent form. Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 2-5 and 10-13 are now allowable.

Conclusion

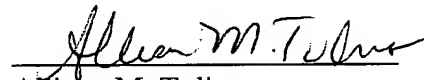
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Application No.: 10/650,048

Attorney Docket No.: Q77203

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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